



Executive Department  
State of Idaho

The Office of the Governor  
**Proclamation**

State Capitol  
Boise

*WHEREAS, young people will be the stewards of our communities, nation and world in critical times, and the present; and*

*WHEREAS, future well-being of our society requires an involved, caring citizenry with good character; and*

*WHEREAS, concerns about the character training of children have taken on a new sense of urgency as violence by and against youth threatens the physical and psychological well-being of the nation; and*

*WHEREAS, more than ever, children need strong and constructive guidance from their families and their communities, including schools, youth organizations, religious institutions and civic groups; and*

*WHEREAS the character of a nation is only as strong as the character of its individual citizens, and the public good benefits when young people learn that good character counts in personal relationships, in school and in the workplace; and*

*WHEREAS scholars and educators agree that people do not automatically develop good character and, therefore, conscientious efforts must be made by youth-influencing institutions and individuals to help young people develop the essential traits and characteristics that comprise good character; and*

*WHEREAS character development is, first and foremost, an obligation of families, though efforts by faith communities, schools, and youth, civic and human service organizations also play a very important role in supporting family efforts by fostering and promoting good character; and*

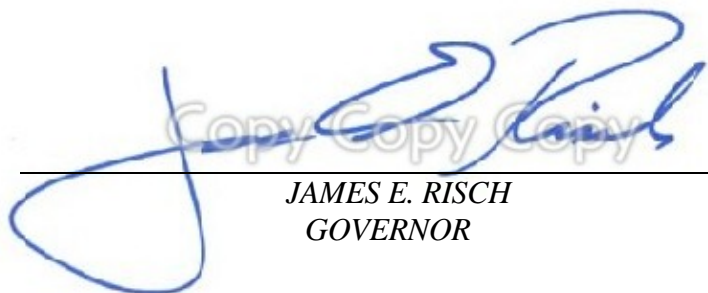
*NOW, THEREFORE, I, JAMES E. RISCH, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim October 15-22, 2006, to be*

**CHARACTER COUNTS WEEK**

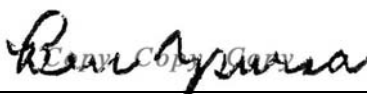
*in Idaho.*



*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this 5<sup>th</sup> day of October in the year of our Lord two thousand and six and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred thirty-first and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred seventeenth.*

A large, stylized blue ink signature of James E. Risch is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter 'J' being particularly large and prominent. Below the signature, the words "JAMES E. RISCH" and "GOVERNOR" are printed in a serif font.

JAMES E. RISCH  
GOVERNOR

A stylized blue ink signature of Ben Ysursa is written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and fluid, with the first letter 'B' being particularly large and prominent.

BEN YSURSA  
SECRETARY OF STATE